

II. Amendments to the Specification

Kindly add a new Abstract of the Disclosure, as follows:

B1

A partially expanded stent comprising a proximal end and a distal end in communication with one another, a tubular wall disposed between the proximal end and the distal end, the tubular wall having a longitudinal axis and a porous surface defined by a plurality of interconnecting struts. The partially expanded stent has been expanded ex vivo by the application of a radially outward force thereon from a first unexpanded position to a second pre-expanded position at which the stent has reached a point of plastic deformation. The partially expanded stent is further expandable in vivo upon the application of a radially outward force thereon from the second pre-expanded position to a third expanded position wherein the stent will undergo plastic deformation to reach a maximum yield point.